

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

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View From The Cooley Farm

Town of
EASTON
New Hampshire

Year Ending December 31, 2011

This Annual Report is dedicated to the preservation of Easton's beauty and natural resources now and for the future.



NHSL - CONCORD

MAY 20 2013

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Town Officers

for the year ending December 31, 2011

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All Agency Reports Are On File In The Selectmen's Office

~ Photo Front Cover~

Submitted by ~ Frank Woodruff

Printed at Harrison Publishing House, Littleton, New Hampshire.

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TOWN OFFICERS ELECTED OFFICIALS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Board of Selectmen

Tom Boucher	(2013)
Kevin O'Brien	(2014)
Sonia German	(2012)

Town Clerk

Robert Thibault	(2012)
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Treasurer

Darrel Gearhart	(2012)
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Tax Collector

Denys Draper	(2012)
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Moderator

Jim Collier	(2012)
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Trustee of the Trust Funds

Ralph Brigida	(2013)
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Lafayette School Board

Mary Jo Greene	(2014)
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Supervisors of the Checklist

Ed O'Brien	(2016)
Zhene (Zak) Mei	(2014)
Lisa Cutler	(2012)

Cemetery Trustees

Denys Draper	(2013)
Kristina Pastoriza	(2012)
Richard Larcom	(2014)

Library Trustees

Amy Baker	(2013)	Laura Treuman	(2012)	Laura Sabre	(2014)
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Planning Board

Andrew Noyes	(2013)	Gary Harwood	(2014)
Kathy Ouellette	(2012)	Kevin O'Brien	(Ex Officio)
Jim Collier	(2014)	Ronnie Sandler	(Alternate)
		Frank Woodruff	(Alternate)

APPOINTED OFFICIALS & BOARD MEMBERS

Fire Chief	Charles Casey	Emergency Manager	Edward Cutler
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Heath Officer	Dr. Campbell McLaren, MD	Welfare Officer	Thomas Boucher
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Zoning Board of Adjustment		Site Inspector	Art Rainville
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Mike Kelley	(2013)		
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John Hynes	(2012)	Road Agent	Robert Peckett
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Dennis Ford	(2012)		
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Greg Sorg	(2014)	Recreation Committee	Susan Ford
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Tom Boucher	(Ex Officio)		Matt Koehler
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Jack Feenstra	(Alternate)	Deputy Town Clerk	Shirley Boucher
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Animal Control Officer	Richard Larcom	Deputy Tax Collector	Robert Thibault
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Conservation Commission

Denys Draper	(2013)	Steven Sabre	(2012)	Alternates	
Maria Hynes	(2013)	Mike Platt	(2014)	Genny W. Miller	(2013)
Kristina Pastoriza	(2013)	Edward Cutler	(2014)	Debbie Stever	(2012)
Anita Craven	(2012)			Susan Schibanoff	(2012)

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Town of Easton Selectmen continued to conduct the routine business of the Town during the past year.

- Working to resolve various infractions of our Town Regulations.
- Providing guidance to landowners regarding zoning and subdivision regulations.
- Attending meetings to acquire additional information with regards to property development in abutting towns.
- Reviewing and approving permits.
- Making welfare and tax abatement decisions.
- Planning Town Hall improvements.
- Participating in the planning of the Emergency Management procedures for the Town.

Town Website: Please check out the new Town of Easton Website www.townofeastonnh.org. We are very excited to have this Town website available for your use and convenience. If anyone has any input, please contact the Select Board. (Great job, Kevin O'Brien, for setting up the website.)

Assessing Software: The Selectmen and the Town Clerk researched and then purchased assessment software that will work in conjunction with our tax collection software. This will simplify the entire process of issuing semi-annual tax bills. This software will also allow us to lower the cost of mailing as well as reduce the number of man-hours to perform these tasks.

Town Hall: We have made plans to install a new drilled well which will replace the failed dug well. We also have contacted an electrician to update the wiring in the main hall and basement.

Local School Costs: A small group (very small) of Easton residents has attended local school board budget meetings in an effort to ascertain the reason(s) for the increased cost of local school education. Anyone who is interested in this subject is encouraged to attend the Profile and Lafayette Budget Hearings and then voting for the budgets and school related issues. The voting is scheduled for after Town Meeting (see school websites for dates). You will have an opportunity to vote on a very important issue, i.e., your tax rate.

A Note of Appreciation: Our Fire Department has once again provided a multitude of services to the community. The Selectmen wish to acknowledge the Fire Department's work is both recognized and appreciated. Please keep in mind that our Fire Department is a group of volunteers and any offers of assistance are greatly appreciated.

We would also like to thank all those who volunteer in other areas to support the Town. If you are interested in helping the Town, please contact any Select Board member or the Town Clerk who would gladly discuss our needs.

We are especially appreciative of the job that Toni Woodruff has performed as Secretary to the Select Board, the Planning Board, and the Conservation Commission.

Respectfully submitted,
The Easton Select Board

Tom Boucher – Chairman, Kevin O'Brien and Sonia German

TOWN MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2011

To the inhabitants of the Town of Easton, in the County of Grafton, qualified to vote in Town affairs: you are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. Polls will be open from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM for voting on Articles 1 thru 6. The Town's annual business meeting will follow at 7:00 PM.

Ballot Clerks Toni Woodruff, and Shirley Boucher were sworn in and Moderator, Jim Collier, called the Warrant, officially opening the polls at 3:00 pm. Voting commenced from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

The annual business meeting for the Town of Easton was called to order by the Moderator, Jim Collier, at 7:04 pm. Mr. Collier opened the meeting with a brief introduction to the tradition of the Town Meeting and the value of neighbors meeting each other and reconnecting after a long winter. He suggested that we celebrate our freedoms – the same ones that people in other countries around the world are currently fighting and dying for. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was then recited by the body.

The Moderator explained the rules of the meeting, how to overturn his decisions and reminded people to state their names and addresses when recognized and to address their comments to the Moderator.

The Moderator then introduced the Select Board members and the Town Clerk and read the call to the Warrant.

A motion was made by Andrew Noyes, seconded by many to dispense with the reading of the entire Warrant. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 1 – To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year, and to see if the Town will vote to approve or disapprove the proposed amendments to the Town Zoning Ordinance as presented by the Planning Board on the Official Ballot (Ballot Vote.)

The results of Article 1 were announced as follows:

Selectman – 3 year term:

Kevin O'Brien 84

Planning Board – 3 year term:

Gary Harwood 87

Town Clerk – 1 year term:

Bob Thibault 94

Supervisor of the Checklist – 3 year term:

Zhene (Zak) Mei 87

Tax Collector – 1 year term:

Denys Draper 72

Supervisor of the Checklist – 1 year term:

Lisa Cutler 89

Treasurer – 1 year term:

Darrel Gearhart 85

Cemetery Trustee – 3 year term:

Richard Larcom 87

Planning Board – 3 year term:

James Collier 83

Library Trustee – 3 year term:

Laura Sabre 87

ARTICLE 2 – Wetland Conservation District

Are you in favor of replacing Section 604 (Wetland Conservation District) in its entirety with 604 (Wetlands Conservation Overlay District), to bring the Ordinance in compliance with the revised Master Plan? (The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article.) *Article 2 passed on a ballot vote, 68 yes, 23 no.*

ARTICLE 3 – Ground Water Protection District

Are you in favor of replacing section 605 (Aquifer Protection District) in its entirety with -605- (Ground Water Protection District), to meet State statute requirements and to bring the section into agreement with the revised Master Plan? (The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article.) *Article 3 passed on a ballot vote, 71 yes, 22 no.*

ARTICLE 4 – Permitted Residential Uses

Are you in favor of inserting an additional use in Section 601A-: Work Force Housing-, as required by RSA 674:58-61? (The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article.) *Article 4 passed on a ballot vote, 63 yes, 26 no.*

ARTICLE 5 – Lot Size Averaging

Are you in favor of inserting as Section 706, area regulation to permit flexibility in subdivision design to promote the most appropriate use of land and the protection of productive agricultural or forest land, scenic views, historic sites, wetlands, hillsides, important habitat areas, and other resources of importance to the community while minimizing the alteration of the natural topography of the land, in accordance with the goals and objectives of the Master Plan? (The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article.) *Article 5 passed on a ballot vote, 63 yes, 30 no.*

ARTICLE 6 – Steep Slopes, Hillside, and Ridgeline Development Overlay District

Are you in favor of replacing section 606 (Steep Slopes Regulation District) with the Steep Slopes, Hillside and Ridgeline Development Overlay District to protect the scenic and ecological resources associated with lands characterized by higher elevations, steep slopes, and visual sensitivity in a manner that allows for carefully designed, low-impact development which retains the rural character of the Town of Easton? (The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article.) *Article 6 passed on a ballot vote, 60 yes, 33 no.*

ARTICLE 7 – Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$192,902** for general Town operations as follows:

4130 – Executive	\$ 13,650.00
4140 – Election, Registration & Vital Stats & Town Clerk	13,150.00
4150 – Financial Administration	12,750.00
4152 – Revaluation of Individual Properties	4,380.00
4153 – Legal Expenses	5,000.00
4155 – Personnel Administration - Payroll Taxes	1,560.00
4191 – Planning & Zoning	2,500.00
4194 – Government Buildings	10,700.00
4195 – Cemetery	2,500.00
4196 – Insurance	5,095.00

4197 – Advertising & Regional Associations	1,588.00
4199 – Contingency Fund	7,500.00
4210 – Police Department	1,000.00
4215 – Ambulances	3,620.00
4220 – Fire Department	17,850.00
4241 – Building Inspections	300.00
4290 – Emergency Management	1,300.00
4299 – Communications (Dispatch)	1,500.00
4312 – Highway Maintenance	42,000.00
4323 – Hazardous Waste Collection	100.00
4324 – Solid Waste	19,904.00
4414 – Animal & Pest Control	300.00
4415 – Health Agencies & Hospitals	1,670.00
4442 – Welfare Assistance	2,000.00
4449 – Tri-County Community Action Program	2,000.00
4520 – Tri-Town Recreation Programs	8,191.00
4550 – Easton Library	250.00
4583 – Patriotic Purposes – 4 th of July	100.00
4619 – Conservation Commission	1,380.00
4711 – Principal Payment on \$120,000 Construction Bond	6,000.00
4721 – Interest on \$120,000 Construction Bond	<u>3,064.00</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$192,902.00

Moved by Tom Boucher that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$192,902.00 in its entirety for general Town Operations. Seconded by Denys Draper. Ed O'Brien moved to amend the motion to increase the Selectmen's salary from \$1500.00 to \$3000.00 each, stating that they are the hardest working people in the Town. Seconded by Denys Draper. Tom Boucher spoke to the myriad of things the Selectmen did and surprise at the amendment expressing ambivalence of it. Denys Draper spoke of the Selectmen's willingness to respond to any questions from anyone at any time. The motion to amend passed on a voice vote, verified by a show of hands, 32 yea, and 18 nay.

Pat Every moved to amend the amended amount by deleting the \$8,191.00 for the Tri-Town Recreation Program. Seconded by Bill German.

Jim Hunt spoke of his volunteering with the program and of how worthy the program was and that he gave it his full support. Brenda Adam reminded the body that adults are also served by the program for example, a dance program. Beth Harwood urged to keep the line item saying it provided an opportunity to work together with our neighboring communities and how important it was for isolated rural children to get together. Tom Palmer, representative for the Tri-Town Recreation Program stated that 50% of the program's funds come from the Towns served with the remainder from various fees and events. Ed O'Brien stated that there is a lack of communication to the Town about the programs offered and suggested that the events be posted at the Town Hall. Mike Platt informed the body that the Franconia Trails map was a rec. program project. The question was moved and seconded. The motion to delete the line for the Tri-Town Recreation Program failed on a unanimous voice vote.

Discussion resumed on the amended motion of the amended Operative Budget of \$197,402.00. Ralph Brigida pointed out that with the increase in Selectmen's salary,

the payroll tax would also have to be increased by about \$300.00. The motion was made by Denys Draper, seconded by Ellen Malessa to include that amount in the amendment. Motion passed unanimously. The Operating Budget, now amended to \$197,702.00 passed on a unanimous voice vote.

At this point the results of the voting on Articles 1 through 6 were announced and are posted above.

ARTICLE 8 – Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500.00 to add to the Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Kevin O'Brien and seconded by Sue Ford. Denys Draper questioned the phrase "majority vote required" in the Article write-up and was answered that it was just to point out that a majority, not a 2/3s vote was required. Dennis Ford asked what the total in the fund was and the purpose of the fund. He was answered that it was \$43,028.00 as shown on page 24 of the Town Report, and the purpose of the fund is to be able to maintain Town Roads without or minimizing the amount of bond money that may be required. Mr. Ford expressed his concern about taxpayers of today putting money away for the benefit of taxpayers of the future who may not have paid toward that benefit. He also wondered whether it was legal. Tom Boucher spoke to some potential projects that the Town could have to undertake, the Gibson Road and Route 116 intersection for example.

Anita Craven questioned who is authorized to expend those funds, the answer was the Selectmen.

The Article passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 9 – Expendable Trust Fund for Maintenance and Repair to Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund for the maintenance and repair of government buildings, to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to be placed in this Fund, and to appoint the Selectmen agents to expend. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Tom Boucher, seconded by Ed O'Brien. Tom Boucher explained the relationship of this Article 9 to the next two Articles 10 and 11. Explaining that the purpose was to create a new fund and move the monies from the old fund to the new fund. He also pointed out that the Town Hall kitchen needs repairs and the basement could be modified for storage. Anita Craven asked where in the Town Report the fund showed, the response was it was on page 24. The Article passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 10 – Movement of Funds from the Capital Reserve Fund to the Expendable Trust Fund for Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to move all funds from the Capital Reserve Fund to the Expendable Trust Fund for the maintenance and repair of government buildings. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Tom Boucher, seconded by Denys Draper. The Article passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 11 – Discontinuance of the Capital Reserve Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Capital Reserve Fund for the maintenance and repair of government buildings. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Tom Boucher, seconded by Sue Ford. The Article passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 12 – Conservation Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500.00 to add to the Conservation Fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Sonia German, seconded by John Hynes. Ralph Brigida asked what the purpose of the request was and was answered that to fund projects not covered by the Conservation Commission (C.C.) budget, for example, the Taking Action for Wildlife program to earmark certain wildlife areas and for Northern Pass opposition costs. Mr. Brigida opined that the request was not needed. Denys Draper, C.C. member, pointed out that the budget was intended for normal operating expenses and not projects like restoring wild apple trees and the CCC camp work. The Article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 13 – Expendable Trust Fund for Legal Fees Incurred Representing the Town's Position Regarding the Northern Pass Project

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund in accordance with RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of paying legal fees arising from the Town's efforts to oppose the Northern Pass Electrical Power Line Project. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 to be placed in this fund, until rescinded, and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend. Opposing the Northern Pass Electrical Power Line Project is in keeping with the provisions of the Town's Master Plan. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was moved and expanded upon by Kevin O'Brien as follows, "I move that the Town vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund in accordance with RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of funding all expenses including but not limited to legal clerical and distributive incurred from the Town's efforts to oppose the Northern Pass Electrical Power Line Project and that the Town raise and appropriate \$2500.00 and appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend and/or accept additional funds for informing State and Federal legislators, State and Federal regulatory agencies including the Public Utilities Commission, Department of Environmental Services, State and Federal government offices including the New Hampshire Governor and Council, of Easton Residents' Resolve to prevent the construction of and prevent acquisition of land therefore, and all other activities designed to promote, plan or construct the proposed Northern Pass, LLC Power Transmission Project through the Town of Easton in accordance with the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the Northern Pass Power Transmission Project as presently proposed would pass through the Town of Easton and the White Mountain National Forest, and WHEREAS this project would blight the landscape and devastate the values of properties within its transmission corridor and adversely impact fragile wildlife habitat and wetlands located within Easton and the National Forest, and

WHEREAS this project would make the area less attractive for outdoor recreational activities and tourism, now be it

RESOLVED that the Town strongly opposes this project, that a copy of this resolution be distributed per the foregoing motion and to all additional forums as may be possible within the limits of this funding.

Opposing the Northern Pass Electrical Power Line Project is in keeping with provisions of the Town's Master Plan. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.)

There was much discussion as to why the Town should oppose the Northern Pass – negative financial impacts, disparity in published figures especially with respect to increased property tax income and reductions in electric bills. Bob Craven pointed that the Town is already on record as opposed and as interveners.

The Article as read passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 14 – New Town Ordinance Prohibiting Snow Removal Onto Town Roads

To see if the Town will vote to create a New Town Ordinance that prohibits a person from creating a snow obstruction by plowing snow onto the right of way of any Town Road. Such prohibited conduct constitutes a violation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Kevin O'Brien, seconded by Denys Draper. Ellen Pritham questioned how the ordinance would be enforced. Tom Boucher answered that it would be by a Police Officer and that an ordinance is required for a Police Officer to have something to enforce. The Article would provide that ordinance. Tom Palmer confirmed that it didn't prevent one from plowing across a roadway if they cleaned up immediately. Dennis Ford spoke to support the Article. The question was moved by Kevin O'Brien, seconded by Denys Draper. The Motion to move passed and the Article passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 15 – Boys' and Girls' Club Donation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to support the Boys' and Girls' Club of the North Country in order to provide a "Fun, Safe, and Positive Place" for all kids of the North Country. (The Selectmen recommend this Appropriation.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Sonia German, seconded by Patricia O'Brien. A valid petition for ballot vote was presented to and accepted by the Moderator. Much discussion entailed prior to the ballot vote by many in attendance with objections to funding a private organization through taxes and how to decide which ones to fund countered by many testaments to the value of supporting an area community service for young people. It was pointed out that the Town already makes contributions to several other non-profit organizations it feels are worthy of community value. After much impassioned discussion the question was moved by Tom Boucher, seconded by many and passed. Voting ensued. The Article passed with 37 yes votes to 21 no votes.

ARTICLE 16 – The Grading and Graveling of the Kinsman Trail Entrance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 to grade and gravel the Kinsman Trail entrance from Route 116 on lot 1-55 (The Selectmen recommend this Appropriation.) (Majority vote required.)

The Article was read and moved by Tom Boucher, seconded by Denys Draper. Tom Boucher explained the purpose of the Article was to improve the driveway to the Kinsman Trailhead so that it could be plowed in the winter so that the vehicles could park in the parking area off the road. The State has agreed to plow the parking area if the Town would gravel the driveway. The generosity of Dr. Eric White, owner of the property in contributing the area to be used for trailhead parking was acknowledged and appreciated by all in attendance. The Article passed on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 17 – To Act Upon Any Other Business That May Legally Come Before This Meeting

Denys Draper informed the body about the Pastry and Preservation meeting on April 16th featuring Will Abbot of the NH SPNHF. Jim Collier thanked Doug Garfield for acting as Moderator during the earlier polling hours. Kris Pastoriza was recognized and thanked by the body for her tenacious work on getting the Kinsman Cemetery placed on the NH Register of Historic Places.

Lastly, Kevin O'Brien made an appeal for more Townspeople to get involved in the Town's affairs.

Moved by Sue Ford to adjourn, seconded by many. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:36.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Thibault
Town Clerk, Easton

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF EASTON – REVENUE

SOURCES OF REVENUE	Estimated 2011	Actual 2011	Estimated 2012
Taxes:			
3185 Timber Taxes	\$ 8,330.00	\$ 8,850.00	\$ 4,000.00
3186 Payment in Lieu of Taxes	31,771.00	31,771.00	30,000.00
3190 Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	4,750.00	11,769.00	5,000.00
Licenses, Permits, & Fees:			
3210 Business Licenses & Permits	500.00	0.00	0.00
3220 Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	47,500.00	51,488.00	46,000.00
3230 Building Permits	385.00	385.00	0.00
3290 Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	0.00	592.00	0.00
3311-3319 From Federal Government	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
From State:			
3352 Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	11,340.00	11,340.00	10,000.00
3353 Highway Block Grant	10,751.00	10,751.00	9,143.00
3359 Other (Including Railroad Tax)	0.00	6,091.00	0.00
Charges For Services:			
3401-3406 Income from Departments	0.00	2,633.00	1,500.00
Miscellaneous Revenues:			
3502 Interest on Investments	650.00	751.00	500.00
3503-3509 Other	0.00	51.00	0.00
Interfund Operating Transfer In:			
3915 Capital Reserve Funds	10,000.00	11,709.00	0.00
Other Financing Sources:			
Estimated Fund Balance			
To Reduce Taxes	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>45,000.00</u>
Total Estimated Revenue & Credits	\$135,977.00	\$159,181.00	\$151,143.00

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF EASTON – EXPENDITURES

PURPOSES OF APPROPRIATIONS	Estimated 2011	Actual 2011	Budgeted 2012
General Government:			
4130-4139 Executive	\$ 18,150.00	\$ 15,992.00	\$ 18,150.00
4140-4149 Election, Reg., & Vital Statistics	13,150.00	11,060.00	13,150.00
4150-4151 Financial Administration	12,750.00	11,541.00	11,800.00
4152 Revaluation of Property	4,380.00	4,035.00	4,600.00
4153 Legal Expenses	5,000.00	1,078.00	5,000.00
4155-4159 Personnel Administration	1,860.00	1,860.00	2,000.00
4191-4193 Planning & Zoning	2,500.00	2,321.00	2,500.00
4194 General Government Buildings	10,700.00	10,150.00	16,200.00
4195 Cemeteries	2,500.00	2,075.00	2,075.00
4196 Insurance	5,095.00	4,932.00	5,027.00
4197 Advertising & Regional Association	1,588.00	1,100.00	1,574.00
4199 Other General Government	7,500.00	1,865.00	7,500.00
Public Safety:			
4210-4214 Police	1,000.00	364.00	1,500.00
4215-4219 Ambulance	3,620.00	500.00	3,770.00
4220-4229 Fire	17,850.00	18,091.00	17,950.00
4240-4249 Building Inspections	300.00	0.00	300.00
4290-4298 Emergency Management	1,300.00	0.00	750.00
4299 Other (including communications)	1,500.00	6,500.00	1,500.00
Highways and Streets:			
4312 Highways & Streets	42,000.00	45,448.00	44,000.00
Sanitation:			
4321 Administration	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4323 Solid Waste Collection	100.00	0.00	100.00
4324 Solid Waste Disposal	18,904.00	19,904.00	20,871.00
Health:			
4414 Pest Control	300.00	0.00	300.00
4415-4419 Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other	1,670.00	921.00	1,938.00
Welfare:			
4445-4449 Vendor Payments & Other	4,000.00	700.00	5,000.00
Culture and Recreation:			
4520-4529 Parks & Recreation	8,191.00	7,158.00	8,676.00
4550-4559 Library	250.00	256.00	250.00
4583 Patriotic Purposes	100.00	0.00	100.00
4589 Other Culture & Recreation	0.00	0.00	1,000.00

Conservation:			
4619 Other Conservation	1,380.00	1,467.00	1,500.00
Debt Service:			
4711 Principal-Long Term Bonds & Notes	6,000.00	7,473.00	6,000.00
4721 Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes	<u>3,064.00</u>	<u>1,591.00</u>	<u>3,064.00</u>
OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL	\$197,702.00	\$179,382.00	\$209,145.00

SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES

4916 To Exp. Trust Fund	<u>\$ 22,000.00</u>	<u>\$33,709.00</u>	<u>\$32,000.00</u>
Special Articles Recommended	\$22,000.00		\$32,000.00

INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES

4619 Conservation Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
4520 Kinsman Trail	2,500.00	2,500.00	
4589 Boys & Girls Club	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	
Individual Articles Recommended	\$4,000.00		\$ 500.00

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Prior Year	Ensuing Year
Operating Budget Appropriations Recommended	\$197,702.00	\$209,145.00
Special Warrant Articles Recommended	22,000.00	32,000.00
Individual Warrant Articles Recommended	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total Appropriations Recommended	\$223,702.00	\$241,645.00
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	<u>(135,977.00)</u>	<u>(151,143.00)</u>
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$ 87,725.00	\$ 90,502.00

PROFIT & LOSS

January through December 2011

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

3110-1	Property Tax Revenue	\$ 706,819.99
3185-0	Timber Taxes	8,849.51
3186-0	Payments in Lieu of Taxes	31,771.00
3190-0	Penalties & Interest	11,769.14
3220-0	Motor Vehicle Permits & Titles	51,488.00
3230-0	Building Permits	385.00
3290-0	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	592.50
3319	Federal Grants	999.75
3352-0	Rooms & Meals Tax	11,339.50
3353-0	Highway Block Grant	10,750.72
3359	Grant Money Received	6,091.28
3401-0	Income from All Departments	1,732.75
3402	Sale of Cemetery Lots	900.00
3502-0	Bank Interest	751.51
3509-0	Miscellaneous Income	51.12
3915-0	Transfers from Capital Reserve	11,708.99
3916-0	Transfers from Trust Funds	<u>5,000.00</u>

Total Income \$861,000.76

Expense

4130-0	Executive	
4130100	Salaries - Selectmen, Moderator	9,350.00
4130150	Secretary Pay	2,310.00
4130300	Outside Services - Tax Maps	970.00
4130600	Office Expenses	<u>3,362.45</u>

Total 4130-0 Executive 15,992.45

4140-0	Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Statistics	
4140100	Salary - Town Clerk	6,000.00
4140150	Deputy Town Clerk	1,000.00
4140200	Fees - Town Clerk	49.00
4140500	Election & Voter Registration	1,014.70
4140600	Office & Miscellaneous	<u>2,996.65</u>

Total 4140-0 Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Statistics 11,060.35

4150	Financial Administration	
4150100	Salaries - Tax Collector, Treasurer, Auditor	8,250.00
4150125	Financial Services	420.00
4150200	Fees & Miscellaneous	290.16
4150600	Office Expenses & Bank Charges	<u>2,581.10</u>

Total 4150 Financial Administration 11,541.26

4152-0	Revaluation of Individual Property		
4152100	Revaluation	<u>4,035.00</u>	
Total 4152-0	Revaluation of Individual Property		4,035.00
4153-0	Legal Expenses		1,078.00
4155-22	Personnel Administration & Payroll Taxes		1,860.11
4191-00	Planning & Zoning		2,321.01
4194-0	Government Buildings		
4194400	Utilities	8,166.74	
4194800	Repairs, Maintenance & Supplies	1,137.32	
4194900	Mowing, Gardening & Wreaths	<u>846.00</u>	
Total 4194-0	Government Buildings		10,150.06
4195-0	Cemetery		
4195600	Miscellaneous, Office Expense, Mem. Day	500.00	
4195900	Mowing & Maintenance	1,575.00	
4195-0	Cemetery – Other	<u>5,000.00</u>	
Total 4195-0	Cemetery		7,075.00
4196-0	Insurance		
4196100	Property Liability-NHMA	4,026.88	
4196200	Worker's Compensation - Primex	<u>905.00</u>	
Total 4196-0	Insurance		4,931.88
4197-0	Advertising & Regional Association		1,099.52
4199-0	General Government-Contingency		1,865.00
4210-0	Police Department		
4210600	Services & Expenses	<u>364.00</u>	
Total 4210-0	Police Department		364.00
4215-0	Ambulances		500.00
4220-0	Fire Department		
4220100	Salary - Fire Chief	750.00	
4220110	Firefighters Call Pay	1,920.00	
4220200	Training, Dues, Other	1,825.01	
4220400	Utilities	3,848.03	
4220600	Office & Miscellaneous	761.92	
4220630	Truck Inspection, Maintenance & Repair	851.66	
4220635	Truck Fuel	146.60	
4220700	Equipment & Small Tools	7,432.59	
4220800	Building Maintenance & Supply	<u>555.31</u>	
Total 4220-0	Fire Department		18,091.12

4299-0	Emergency Management - Communication		6,500.00
4312000	Highway Maintenance		
4312100	Highway Maintenance General	<u>45,448.59</u>	
Total 4312000	Highway Maintenance		45,448.59
4324-0	Solid Waste		
4324100	Administration	1,000.00	
4324200	Disposal	<u>19,904.00</u>	
Total 4324-0	Solid Waste		20,904.00
4415	Health Agencies & Hospitals		921.14
4442	Welfare Direct Assistance		700.00
4520	Parks and Recreation		
4520100	Administrative Fees	1,000.00	
4520200	Tri-Town Recreation Program	6,157.50	
4520	Parks and Recreation - Other	<u>2,500.00</u>	
Total 4520	Parks and Recreation		9,657.50
4550	Library		256.26
4589	Other Culture and Recreation		
4589900	Boys & Girls Club	<u>1,000.00</u>	
Total 4589	Other Culture and Recreation		1,000.00
4619	Other Conservation		1,966.55
4711	Construction Bond - Principal		7,472.99
4721	Construction Bond - Interest		1,591.01
4916	Transfer to Trust/Agency Funds		33,708.99
4931	County Taxes		97,384.00
4933100	Lafayette Regional School District		169,791.00
4933200	Profile School District		<u>350,122.00</u>
Total Expense			<u>839,388.79</u>
Net Ordinary Income			<u>21,611.97</u>
Net Income			<u>\$21,611.97</u>

BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2011

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash in Banks (unrestricted)	\$324,008.69
Cash in Banks (restricted)	3,072.94
Petty Cash	100.00
Property Taxes Due	57,367.95
Reserve for Abatements	(2,716.00)
Property Tax Liens	13,404.04
Timber Taxes Due	148.86
Prepaid Assets	<u>1,915.14</u>
Total Current Assets	397,301.62
Other Assets	
Tax Deeded Property	<u>1,442.97</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$398,744.59</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Current Liabilities	
Due to School Districts	\$191,264.16
Accounts Payable	19,373.55
Property Tax Overpayments	<u>2,831.10</u>
Total Current Liabilities	213,468.81
Fund Equity	
Reserve for Conservation Commission	3,072.94
Reserve for Tax Deeded Property	<u>1,442.97</u>
Total Restricted Funds	4,515.91
Fund Surplus (Unrestricted)	<u>180,759.87</u>
Total Fund Equity	<u>\$185,275.78</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$398,744.59

TREASURER'S REPORT
for the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Bank Balance- January 1, 2011		\$ 102,871.76
Receipts:		
Tax Collector	\$859,075.05	
Town Clerk - Motor Vehicles, Fees, etc	52,276.00	
From Federal & State Government	60,952.25	
From Capital Reserve Fund	5,000.00	
Bank Interest	751.51	
Other Sources	<u>2,873.37</u>	
Total 2011 Receipts		<u>980,928.18</u>
Total Available Receipts		\$1,083,799.94
Disbursements:		
Grafton County - County Taxes	\$ 97,384.00	
School Districts	451,582.34	
Selectmen Ordered Paid	<u>207,751.97</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$756,718.31</u>
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2011		\$327,081.63

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND TAXES ASSESSED FOR 2011

Town Portion

Gross Appropriations	\$223,702.00
Less: Revenues	(135,977.00)
Less: Shared Revenue	0.00
Add: Overlay	2,447.00
Add: War Service Credits	<u>2,950.00</u>

Net Town Appropriation **93,122.00**

School Portion

Net Local School Budget	0.00
Regional School Apportionment	519,913.00
State Education Taxes	<u>(152,539.00)</u>

Approved School(s) Tax Effort **367,374.00**

State Education Taxes

Equalized Valuation (no utilities) x \$2.33	
65,608,328.00	
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation	
(no utilities) 65,126,869	152,539.00

County Portion

Due to County	97,384.00
Less: Shared Revenues	<u>(0.00)</u>

Approved County Tax Effort **97,384.00**

Total Property Taxes Assessed	710,419.00
Less: War Service Credits	(2,950.00)
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	<u>0.00</u>

Total Property Tax Commitment **\$707,469.00**

2010 Tax Rate			2011 Tax Rate		
		%			%
Town	\$1.67	18	Town	\$ 1.42	13
County	1.38	14	County	1.48	13
School	3.95	42	School	5.59	52
State	<u>2.43</u>	26	State	<u>2.34</u>	22
	\$9.43/1000	100%		\$10.83/1000	100%

2011 SUMMARY INVENTORY OF ASSESSED VALUATION

Land	\$28,567,069.00
Buildings	<u>36,559,800.00</u>
Net Valuation Upon Which Tax Rate Is Computed	\$65,126,869.00
Electric Utilities	<u>600,188.00</u>
Total Valuation	\$65,727,057.00
Change in Net Valuation over 2010 (\$64,828,275.00)	\$ 898,782.00



**TOWN OF EASTON
TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MARCH 13, 2012**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Easton, in the County of Grafton, qualified to vote in Town affairs: You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. Polls will be open from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM for voting on Article 1. The Town's annual business meeting will follow at 7:00 PM.

ARTICLE 1. To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year, on the Official Ballot. (Ballot Vote).

ARTICLE 2. Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$209,145.00** for general Town operations as follows:

Executive	\$ 18,150.00
Election, Registration & Vital Stats & Town Clerk	13,150.00
Financial Administration	11,800.00
Revaluation of Individual Properties	4,600.00
Legal Expenses	5,000.00
Personnel Administration - Payroll Taxes	2,000.00
Planning & Zoning	2,500.00
Government Buildings	16,200.00
Cemetery	2,075.00
Insurance	5,027.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	2,574.00
General Government - Contingency	7,500.00
Police Department	1,500.00
Ambulances	3,770.00
Fire Department	17,950.00
Building Inspections	300.00
Emergency Management – Forest Fire	750.00
Emergency Management - Communication	1,500.00
Highway Maintenance	44,000.00
Hazardous Waste Collection	100.00
Solid Waste	21,871.00
Animal & Pest Control	300.00
Health Agencies & Hospitals	1,938.00
Welfare Direct Assistance	3,000.00
Other Welfare - Tri-County Community Action Program	2,000.00
Tri-Town Recreation Programs	8,676.00
Library	250.00
Patriotic Purposes	100.00
Other - Conservation Commission	1,500.00
Construction Bond - Principal	6,000.00
Construction Bond - Interest	<u>3,064.00</u>

Total Operating Budget	\$209,145.00
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ARTICLE 3. Rights Based Ordinance

To see if the Town is in favor of the right to a sustainable energy future and community self-governance “Rights Based Ordinance” to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents and ecosystems of Easton, New Hampshire. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article) (Majority vote required.)

A copy of the proposed ordinance is posted with a copy of the warrant and copies of the proposed ordinance are available at the Town Clerk’s Office. (Copies of this Ordinance will be available at both the Town Budget Meeting of February 7th and at the Annual Town Meeting on March 13th.)

ARTICLE 4. Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500.00 to add to the Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 5. Expendable Trust Fund for Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to add \$20,000.00 to the Expendable Trust Fund for the maintenance and repair of government buildings. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 6. Conservation Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to add to the Conservation Trust Fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 7. Expendable Trust Fund for Legal Fees Incurred Representing the Town’s Position Regarding the Northern Pass Project

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund in accordance with RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of paying legal fees arising from the Town’s efforts to oppose the Northern Pass Electrical Power Line Project. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 to be placed in the fund, until rescinded, and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend. Opposing the Northern Pass Electrical Power Line Project is in keeping with the provisions of the Town’s Master Plan. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 8. Avitar Assessing System Software

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,960.00 to purchase the Avitar Assessing System Software from Avitar Associates of New England. The cost includes \$4,700.00 for the software, and \$1,260.00 for the manual conversion costs. The new software will calculate tax bills and the tax warrant which can then be exported to the Avitar Tax Collection program. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 9. To Act Upon Any Other Business That May Legally Come Before This Meeting

Selectmen of Easton
Tom Boucher, Chairman
Kevin O’Brien
Sonia German

NOTES

TAX COLLECTOR

The year of 2011 has been an interesting and busy one in the Tax Collector's office. In an effort to cut costs and make better use of our time, the Town of Easton (for the first time) had our December Tax Bills printed and mailed by a service. This saved us considerably on postage and printing costs. We are looking forward to continuing to work with this group in the future.

Both the Tax Collector and the Deputy Tax Collector continue to receive updated training which is provided by the New Hampshire Tax Collector's Association as well as the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration. We look forward to continuing our education in this manner during 2012.

As always, if you have a question regarding your taxes, please contact this office on Thursdays between 1PM and 6PM, or by email at EastonTaxCollector@aaahawk.com as well as the old-fashioned way by mail at the Town of Easton Town Hall at 1060 Easton Valley Road. The Tax Collector continues to provide Notary and Justice of the Peace Services to Easton residents at no charge to you if you are a resident of the Town of Easton.

Denys L. Draper
Certified Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR – SUMMARY OF WARRANTS

Levies of 2011 and Prior

		Levies of:		
		DEBITS		
		2011	2010	2009 Prior
Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year:				
Property Taxes	#3110		\$162,732.97	\$7,245.00
Timber Yield Taxes	#3185		3,577.74	
Prior Years' Credits Balance		\$(1,184.24)		
This Year's New Credits		(2,744.10)		
Taxes Committed This Year:				
Property Taxes	#3110	709,137.00	641.00	
Timber Yield Taxes	#3185	3,776.39	5,221.98	
Utility Charges	#3189			
Overpayment Refunds:				
Credits Refunded		969.00		
Interest - Late Tax	#3190	<u>445.16</u>	<u>5,198.88</u>	<u>1,284.79</u>
Total Debits		\$710,399.21	\$177,372.57	\$8,529.79
CREDITS				
Remitted To Treasurer:				
Property Taxes		\$654,119.92	\$155,900.23	\$7,245.00
Timber Yield Taxes		3,627.53	5,221.98	
Interest & Penalties		445.16	5,198.88	1,284.79
Converted to Liens (Principal only)			4,982.74	
Prior Year Overpayments Assigned		(1,162.24)		
Abatements Made:				
Property Taxes		1,664.00	2,053.87	
Uncollected Taxes-End Of Year: #1080				
Property Taxes		53,353.08	4,014.87	
Timber Yield Taxes		148.86		
Property Tax Credit Balance*		<u>(1,797.10)</u>		
Total Credits		\$710,399.21	\$177,372.57	\$8,529.79

*This is the amount of taxes pre-paid for next year as authorized by RSA 80:52-a

SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

DEBITS

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Unredeemed Liens Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$0.00	\$ 0.00	\$5,153.12	\$21,843.57
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	0.00	5,864.00	0.00	0.00
Interest & Costs Collected After Lien Execution	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17.62</u>	<u>504.51</u>	<u>4,319.16</u>
Total Lien Debits	\$0.00	\$5,881.62	\$5,657.63	\$26,162.73

CREDITS

Remitted To Treasurer:

Redemptions	\$0.00	\$ 392.66	\$1,991.55	\$17,072.44
Interest & Costs Collected #3190	0.00	17.62	504.51	4,319.16
Unredeemed Liens End of Fiscal Year #1110	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,471.34</u>	<u>3,161.57</u>	<u>4,771.13</u>
Total Lien Credits	\$0.00	\$5,881.62	\$5,657.63	\$26,162.73

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Motor Vehicle Registrations & Titles	\$51,488.00
Dog Registrations	467.50
Penalties	0.00
Copies	190.50
Marriage License & Certified Copies	95.00
Miscellaneous	<u>35.00</u>
Transferred to Town	\$52,276.00

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF EASTON
For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Date & Place Of Birth	Name Of Child	Name Of Father & Mother's Name
October 19, 2011 Littleton, NH	Elsie Rose Garrison	Joseph Garrison Ashley Garrison
December 3, 2011 Littleton, NH	Thatcher Espen Brown	Samuel Brown Jennifer Johnson

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF EASTON
For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Date & Place Of Marriage	Name and Surname Of Groom & Bride	Residence of Each At Time Of Marriage
September 24, 2011 Lisbon, NH	Charles H. Weed Genesis W. Miller	Easton, NH Easton, NH

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF EASTON
For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Date & Place Of Death	Name & Surname Of Deceased
January 8, 2011 – Easton, NH	Pamela McLaren

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Thibault, Town Clerk

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

December 31, 2011

Assessed Values:	
Land - Town Hall and Fire Station	\$ 90,500.00
Land - Deeded	15,200.00
Building - Town Hall	196,400.00
Building - Fire Station	51,900.00
Estimated Values:	
Furniture and Equipment - Town Hall	18,900.00
Furniture and Equipment - Fire Station	163,285.00
Furniture and Equipment - Library	2,200.00
Furniture and Equipment - Police	<u>200.00</u>
Total Town Property	\$538,585.00

SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT

December 31, 2011

	Principal	Interest	Total
Balance December 31, 2001	\$120,000.00	\$58,425.00	\$178,425.00
Payments through 2010	53,009.94	40,532.59	93,542.53
Payments made in 2011	<u>7,472.99</u>	<u>1,591.01</u>	<u>9,064.00</u>
Balance Remaining 12/31/11	\$ 59,517.07	\$16,301.40	\$ 75,818.47

Note: Loan from the USDA Rural Development for the Town Hall addition dated December 14, 2001. 30 year loan with payout over 20 years at 4.75% interest.

REPORT OF THE TRUST FUNDS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

Funds	Type of Fund	Beginning Balance	Additions		Withdrawals	Ending Balance
			Principal	Interest		
Cemetery Maintenance	T/F	\$12,787.93	\$0.00	\$120.76	\$0.00	\$12,908.69
Fire Dept. Equipment	CRF	355.29	0.00	.91	0.00	356.20
Library Memorial	T/F	423.31	0.00	.48	193.14	230.65
Town Building Repairs	CRF	11,691.59	0.00	17.40	11,708.99	0.00
Town Building Repairs	Exp/TF	0.00	21,708.99	124.02	0.00	21,833.01
Road Maintenance	Exp/TF	43,028.53	9,500.00	423.54	0.00	52,952.07
Cemetery Rehab	Exp/TF	10,066.65	0.00	165.47	5,000.00	5,232.12
Northern Pass Legal	Exp/TF	0.00	2,500.00	13.67	0.00	2,513.67
Land Use	CRF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Totals		\$78,353.30	\$33,708.99	\$866.25	\$16,902.13	\$96,026.41

T/F = Normal type fund. Trustees share discretion over spending.
CRF = Capital Reserve Funds. Needs Town to vote to spend.
Exp/TF = Board of Selectmen have discretion over spending.

PLANNING BOARD

The Master Plan for Easton, as developed by the input and vote of its citizens, seeks to keep Easton as it has been for many years; a quiet, agricultural and forested community in which homes may be sited and built, to continue that environment for the enjoyment of posterity.

In keeping with this guidance, the Planning Board, this year, approved the merger of the two Wutzdorf properties into one, and a minor subdivision of the Collier property into two lots.

Much effort was devoted to discussing, with property owners, various plans to utilize land-locked property adjoining Sugar Hill. These consultations concerned preliminary planning and exploration on an informal level. Because the properties have a property line in common with the Sugar Hill town line, the consultations took on the characteristics of a plan of regional interest. The Sugar Hill Planning Board was similarly consulted by the same owners. The Easton Planning Board was invited to meet jointly with the Sugar Hill Planning Board on two occasions. Although the Sugar Hill meetings involved prepared drawings, there was no formal application before them and the matter seems to have been rejected or withdrawn because of geographical problems related to the actual properties.

These discussions, however, brought several questions to the Board that we now realize may be appropriate for consideration this year. Namely, are there more lands in Easton, the geography of which would make development difficult? Keeping in mind that land is treasure to the owner. Considering we could receive a request at any time, we must consider how we would determine if development at that time was premature. Also, are some requests acceptable and others not and what makes that so? Are there some uses that could be approved and others that could not? Some types of development might require additional infrastructure including, but not limited to, roads, fire and emergency response, and school bus access.

Looking forward we recognize that this treasure of land must be made available to owners in a reasonable manner balanced with the impact on all property owners in Easton.

This is interesting work and valuable to everyone. The Board needs alternate members to sit and understand these challenges, as all of the Planning Board members have requirements that occasionally preclude them from attending a meeting. The Board meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm in the Town Hall.

Formally appointed and sitting alternates can be of great service by attending regularly, being informed, and ready to sit in place of an absent member. Come to a meeting and see if you could provide such service to Easton. Of course, all meetings are open to the public.

Submitted,
By the Easton Planning Board

LIBRARY REPORT

Easton Public Library Board of Trustees continues to prioritize the physical plant. Ongoing improvements include new adjustable shelves, modifications of original shelves, installation of display easels, visual enhancements and the acquisition of a second rocking chair. Still needed are replacement ceiling fixtures, additional electric outlets and an outdoor return book drop. Thank you for your patience during these renovations.

We spent \$256.26 from the Library's budget and one donation for books to purchase office supplies, eleven new books and three subscriptions. The Library's Memorial Trust provided \$180.35 for 13 new books. There were 162 donated books. Seven kilowatt meters were loaned to monitor household electricity consumption and 158 books and 102 magazines and newspapers were borrowed. There were 17 random visitors. The Library currently serves 54 patrons.

Heartfelt thanks to all of our many donors including Dr. Campbell McLaren's M.D.'s Physicians' Desk Reference, Barbara Collier's "Consumer Reports" subscription, and Catherine Menninger's conservation books, and the Littleton Friday Club for funds for books of our choice. Special thanks to Steve Sabre for his carpentry skills and furniture restoration. Also the anonymous donation of the summer fan and the 2012 Fish and Game Wildlife Calendar are much appreciated.

Be sure to notice the new conservation book display. Subjects range from how to eat well when the power goes out to dowsing, solar energy, home water supply, beekeeping, raising chickens, wood heat and the politics of being green. Read the "Mother Earth News" magazine for the latest tips on sustainable living.

Wish List: A metal office desk and Electrical work by a licensed local electrician.

For requests, reservations and renewals, call Laura Treuman, 823-8594.

Library Hours: Thursdays, 3-5 and by appointment. Thank you for your continuous support.

Respectfully submitted,
Easton Public Library Board of Trustees
Laura Treuman, Laura Sabre,
Amy Baker, Toni Woodruff, Alternate

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission's *Taking Action for Wildlife* program is in the final stage, with the development of a Natural Resources Inventory. We are very fortunate to have the expertise of David Falkenham, Extension Educator of UNH Cooperative Extension, who has volunteered to complete Easton's NRI as his master's degree final project. Dave has begun bushwacking around some of the upper elevations in Easton and is looking to our community members to assist him in sighting areas of interest on their property. Several of our landowners have already contacted him about walking their land which will aid him toward completing this project. He is looking forward to communicating with as many landowners as possible in order to facilitate an accurate assessment of Easton's natural resources. We encourage anyone interested in assisting Dave in his information gathering to contact him at 603-787-6944 or dave.falkenham@unh.edu. *This information will only be used to provide a general overview of Easton's landscape characteristics and specific properties will not be identified.*

Two Pastry & Preservation meetings were sponsored by the CC this year on the Northern Pass project. Both events were well attended. Kudos to the creative thinking of Mike and Emily Platt. The orange bows displayed throughout the area were their idea.

Work continued on Tunnel Brook Project, tagging areas of historical interest in the old CC camp until Tropical Storm Irene hit and affected much of the work that was completed. The Forest Service will have to make an assessment of the site as to when work may be resumed.

Our new website created through New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions is complete. Please visit the site at www.nhacc.org/commissions/easton. We are always looking for wildlife photos to put on our website. Please email them to eastonnhconservation@gmail.com.

The Commission meets in the Town Hall the third Friday of every month at 8 AM. We do not meet in June, July and August. Residents are welcome to attend the meetings and share their concerns regarding the Town's natural resources.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Hynes, Chair
Denys Draper, Vice-Chair
Anita Craven
Ned Cutler
Mike Platt
Steve Sabre
Wren Miller Weed, alternate
Susan Schibanoff, alternate
Deb Stever, alternate

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report for year 2011

2011 was another great year for the Easton Volunteer Fire Department and for the residents of the Town. The Volunteer Fire Department has shown its effectiveness and value to the Town of Easton and to the surrounding Towns to which the Easton Volunteer Fire Department provides mutual aid.

The Easton Volunteer Fire Department responded to twenty three calls in 2011 and these calls are broken down as follows:

Fire False Alarm Activations (5)
Motor Vehicle Accidents (3)
Motor Vehicle Accidents Fatal (1)
Chimney Fires (2)
Mutual Aid given: Franconia (10), Sugar Hill (1)
Flood Evacuation (1)

The Easton Volunteer Firefighters maintain a uniform drill within the Town of Easton each month. All the drills are aimed at better preparedness and greater understanding for each firefighter as to how to approach specific areas of Fire Service that they are likely to encounter. The drills were effective for all involved.

The Easton Fire Department added a few new members in 2011. We are still looking for individuals who think they may be interested in helping at the Fire Department. There are many jobs besides fighting fires. We encourage anyone interested to come to one of our bi-monthly meetings held at 7 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Fire Station.

In closing, we, the Volunteers and Firefighters of the Easton Volunteer Fire Department, want to say a warm “THANK YOU” to all of the folks who support us in our endeavor to serve our community with pride each and every year.

Respectfully submitted,
The Easton Volunteer Firefighters
Charles Casey, Chief

EASTON FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET-2012

January 1, 2012

Expenditure	<u>Category</u> 4220	<u>Budget</u>
Fire Chief's Salary	100	\$ 750.00
Fire Fighters Call Pay	110	3,200.00
Training, Dues, Other	200	1,000.00
Utilities	400	3,700.00
Office & Miscellaneous	600	500.00
Truck Inspection, Maintenance & Repair	630	1,800.00
Truck Fuel	636	1,000.00
Equipment & Small Tools	700	4,500.00
Building Maintenance & Supplies	800	<u>1,500.00</u>
TOTAL		\$17,950.00
Emergency Management/Forest Fire	4290	
Labor	100	\$ 750.00
Equipment	700	<u>0.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL		\$18,700.00

FRANCONIA LIFE SQUAD

The Ambulance Service continues to seek its membership by recruiting from the towns of Franconia, Sugar Hill and Easton, the same communities it provides service to. Each member is dedicated to providing the highest quality emergency care to the communities we serve.

All members are Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technicians. They are continually training and improving their skills. Each member must have a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education each year plus every two years must take an additional 24 hour of classroom refresher and an extensive practical exam, where members must demonstrate their proficiency to State examiners.

Currently, five (5) of our members are certified to provide Advanced Life Support, three (3) of which are nationally registered paramedics. The Franconia Ambulance at year's end had fourteen (14) active members and a paramedic advisor, for a total of fifteen (15) members. A membership well prepared to assist our citizens and visitors to our area with quality emergency medical care.

Many of the members have other specialized training including ice rescue, swift water rescue, high angle rescue and motor vehicle extrication certifications. All of the members are certified in advance CPR and in the use of the heart monitor and defibrillator. Most importantly, all of our members are dedicated to providing compassionate emergency medical care from the scene to the hospital.

Active members of the Franconia Life Squad at year end were:

Chief Paul Schmucker – EMT-B

Asst. Chief Steve Czarnecki – EMT-P

Capt. Pam Oakman – EMT-I

Ned Wilson – EMT-B

Mark Taylor – EMT-B

Bill Blackwell – EMT-I

Ryan O'Hara – EMT-B

Allan Clark – EMT-B

William Mead – EMT-P

John Ireland – EMT-B

Zach Mangione – EMT-B

Linda Mordhorst – EMT-B

Susan Simpson – EMT - B

Gareth Slattery – EMT-B

Jeff Stewart – EMT - P

The Franconia Ambulance responded to 185 calls for assistance during 2011, of those 101 required transport.

In 2011, the operating expenses were \$48,688 and income obtained from patient billing and subsidies from Sugar Hill and Easton totaled \$31,267 with the net cost for the operation of the Franconia Ambulance to the Town of Franconia being \$15,704.

Your Ambulance that went into service in 2008 is currently operating at the Advanced Life Support paramedic level.

Again, I sincerely thank the townspeople for their continued support. And I especially thank the members of the Life Squad for their countless hours of dedication, to serving others, in their community.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Schmucker – Chief
Franconia Life Squad

TRI-TOWN TRANSFER STATION

2011 recycling in the Tri –Town area showed a moderate gain over 2010. This increase brings our recycle rate to 44 percent, which is well above the State average.

Newspaper -- 53.8 tons
Cardboard -- 73.1 tons
Mixed paper -- 34.1 tons
Aluminum -- 3.7 tons
Tin -- 6.3 tons

#1 Plastic -- 4.1 tons
#2 Plastic -- 8.1 tons
Scrap Metal -- 19.5 tons
Glass -- 94.1 tons
Textiles -- 14 tons
Electronics -- 13.2 tons

On behalf of your employees Kevin, Nate, Troy and myself, Thank You.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Wells
Transfer Station Manager

LAFAYETTE RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Lafayette Recreation Department has had another great year. A huge THANK YOU goes out to all who made this happen.

The Old Home Day, Franconia Scramble, Hayseed Festival, Halloween Cup Soccer Tournament, Pumpkin Festival, Wobble & Gobble 5k Road Race and the Summer Concert Series were all very successful, bringing people and revenue to our Towns. We hope to improve upon all of the above and add new events when possible.

After several years of fundraising and Capital Reserve money, we were able to resurface the rink and purchase new boards to bring it back to the original size. The *ice* skating has been very good and the rink is getting lots of use; Family Skate Night, birthday parties, after school activities, Lafayette Elementary School Winter Program, tourists, second home owners, and local *residents* have all come out to play.

We also added dugouts to the baseball field. The materials were donated by Coventry Log Homes and volunteers help put them together.

There are abundant trails in the three towns and we are in a continuous process of inventorying, maintaining, mapping and making signs with trail information. We have organized a group of trail enthusiasts for this purpose, called the “Franconia Area Trails” group or FAT for short. A map is available at local stores.

Youth soccer, baseball, softball and basketball had excellent attendance and successes along the way. Thank you very much to all the coaches who give so much of their time to these programs and *our* kids.

The 5th and 6th graders were also treated to a hodgepodge of activities, such as skating, field hockey, lacrosse, tennis, golf, frisbee, etc. These programs rely totally on volunteers. Both parents and people without children who just love the *games* make it all work.

Kris Kappler has done another outstanding job of organizing all the youth teams, and the summer program. Without her dedication and organizational skills our heads would spin. A good leader brings out the best in the staff and our team of recreation counselors proved just that.

The Lafayette Recreation Committee meets the first Thursday of every month the location to be announced. Check the Town website www.franconianh.org for more details.

Watch for next summer’s schedule and participate in the “SNAP SHOT CHALLENGE”. *You’ll find the pictures at www.franconianh.org.*

Respectfully submitted,

Lafayette Committee Members

Franconia: Jeff Malcolm, Beth Horan & Adam Boyer

Sugar Hill: Gordie Johnk & Cindy McClaren

Easton: Sue Ford & Matt Koehler

Kris Kappler, Youth Program Director

Kim Cowles, Park & Recreation Director

NORTH COUNTRY HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE AGENCY, INC.

North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency provides skilled services such as nurses, therapists, home health aides, medical social workers, and homemakers. Under our hospice program we also pay for medications for symptom relief, medical supplies and equipment, short term hospitalization and in-patient respite care, counseling and pastoral support. Hospice volunteers provide valuable support to those living with a life-limiting illness.

Although many of North Country Home Health & Hospice's services are paid for through Medicare, Medicaid, and State grant programs, our reimbursement under these programs continues to fall significantly short of actual expenses. Unfunded cost such as mileage reimbursement has also drastically affected the Agency's financial performance. Our hospice volunteer program depends largely on community donations to exist. Hard economic times are resulting in an increase in the number of uninsured and underinsured residents in need of home health and hospice care. In order for us to be able to continue to provide quality care so urgently needed by our community, financial support from our towns is vital.

It is our sincere hope that the residents of Easton will continue to support North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency in the amount of \$610.00.

A formal written report of services provided to residents of Easton will be forwarded to the Selectmen as soon as possible after the close of the current calendar year.

The Board of Directors and Staff of North Country Home Health & Hospice appreciate the continued support of the valuable services we provide to the residents of Easton. Please call if you need any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Tomlinson
Executive Director

GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well being of our communities' older citizens. The Council's programs enable elderly individuals to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

The Council operates eight senior centers in Plymouth, Littleton, Canaan, Lebanon, Bristol, Orford, Haverhill and Lincoln; operates adult in-home care from offices in Lebanon and Haverhill; and sponsors the Grafton County ServiceLink Resource Center and RSVP and the Volunteer Center. Through the centers, ServiceLink and RSVP, older adults and their families take part in a range of community-based long-term services including home delivered meals, community dining programs, transportation, counseling, elder care, chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

During 2011, 7 older residents of Easton were served by one or more of the Council's programs offered through the Littleton Area Senior Center:

- Easton residents enjoyed 5 hot nutritious meals with others in the Littleton Area Senior Center dining room.
- Easton residents were transported to health care providers or other community resources on 38 occasions by our lift-equipped buses.

The cost to provide Council services for Easton residents in 2011 was \$520.01.

Such services can be critical to elderly individuals who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty, saving tax dollars that would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. They also contribute to a higher quality of life for older friends and neighbors. As our population grows older, supportive services such as those offered by the Council become even more critical. *Easton's population over age 60 has increased by 79.6% over the past 20 years according to U.S. Census data from 1990 to 2010.*

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council very much appreciates Easton's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older citizens and enable them to meet the challenges of aging in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes.

Roberta Berner
Executive Director

AMMONOOSUC COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES, INC

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. (ACHS) is requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$500 from the Town of Easton for 2012. This amount will help us to continue to provide high quality healthcare to our **51 Easton patients** and to reach more of those who are in need of our services.

ACHS has been a vital part of the community for 35 years and while many of our services are paid for through Medicare, Medicaid and grants, we have seen our patient population increase substantially, especially the uninsured and under-insured, due to economic conditions. Unfortunately, our reimbursements through federal, state and county programs fall short of actual expenses, and further budget cuts at all levels are being considered.

ACHS serves 26 towns in northern Grafton and southern Coös counties and has sites located in Littleton, Franconia, Whitefield, Warren and Woodsville. **As a Federally Qualified Health Center, ACHS provides comprehensive preventive and primary healthcare to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay.** We are a vital resource to keeping our communities healthy. In return, we are asking the communities we serve to support us financially. Community Health Centers have a long history of being a financially sound investment. Without them, many of our patients would delay health care until it became an emergency situation, ending up in the emergency room, or admitted to a hospital, costing taxpayers substantially more.

Enclosed are brochures explaining our organization and the services we offer in detail. Should you have any questions or if you would like a tour of our facilities, please do not hesitate to call.

On behalf of Ammonoosuc Community Health Services' board of directors, staff and patients, we would like to thank you for considering our request for funding.

Sincerely,
Edward D Shanshala II, MSHSA, MSEd
and Charles Thibodeau

TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION

Tri-County Community Action Program is a private, non-profit agency that is requesting, at your 2012 Town Meeting, \$2,000 in funding from the Town of Easton to help support its Community Contact Division. The requested funds help with overhead expenses that the programs we administer do not cover.

The following is a report of services provided in the fiscal year July 2010 - June 2011:

	Number of Households	Dollar Amount
Fuel Assistance	13	\$10,350.00
Electrical Assistance	9	3,519.00
Emergency Funds		
(FEMA/KYNW/Cath. Char./McKinney)	1	300.00
CAP Pantry (67 people receiving 3 days worth of food)	19	175.00

**THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY
ACTION, THE CITIZENS OF EASTON HAVE RECEIVED A TOTAL
OF \$14,344 IN ASSISTANCE.**

Community Contact provides these and other necessary services for the less fortunate citizens in your Town and surrounding vicinities. We are depending upon funding from your Town and others countywide.

We sincerely appreciate the Town of Easton's past support and look forward to our continuing partnership to provide essential services to your residents.

Sincerely,
Karen Hoyt
Littleton Community Contact Manager

TOWN OF EASTON

FEES

(As of March 2012 - Subject to Change)

Building Permit Application Fee

\$75.00

9-1-1 Building Numbering

\$30.00

Current Use Application

\$20.00

Driveway Permit for Town Roads

\$20.00

Reappraisal Charges

\$45.00

Subdivision Application Fees

Minor and Major Subdivisions: \$200.00

Plus \$10.00 per abutter

This covers all filing fees

Minor Lot Line Adjustment and/or Boundary Agreement: \$10.00

Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances

Taxpayers – 1st Copy Free – Additional Copies \$5.00

Non-Taxpayers - \$10.00 per Copy

Copies

Taxpayers - \$0.10 per page

Non-Taxpayers - \$0.25 per page

Non-Resident Tax Card = \$5.00

Faxes

\$1.00 per page

***Clerical Time to Meet Miscellaneous Information Requests
\$25.00 per Hour, Payable Before Information Is Released.***

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police – Fire – Medical Emergency

9-1-1

New Hampshire State Police – Troop F

846-3333

Fire Chief

Charles Casey – 823-0020 or 616-8053

Fire Wardens

Warden – Arthur Rainville – 823-9558

Deputy – Darrel Gearhart – 823-7152

Deputy – Charles Casey – 823-0020

Town Clerk and Tax Collector

Town Hall Telephone – 823-8017

Town Hall Fax – 823-7780

Hours

**Thursday – 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
and by appointment**

A license for all dogs is required by May 1, 2012

**A Current Rabies Certificate is required in Easton
in order to license a dog.**

Select Board Meetings for 2012

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	*4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			*1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	*7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	*4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	*2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	*6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	*11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			*1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	*5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	*3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	*7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	*5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Select Board Meetings – 6:00 p.m. every other Monday evening.

*Planning Board Meetings – 7:00 p.m. first Wednesday of each month. July's meeting is scheduled for July 11th.

Conservation Commission – 8:00 a.m. third Friday of each month. No Meetings June, July and August.

Department Head Meetings with the Board – 6:30 p.m. as scheduled below:

Department	Meetings with Select Board
Fire Chief	3/26, 6/4, 8/13, 10/22
Road Agent	4/9, 8/13, 10/22, 12/17
Town Clerk	5/7, 7/16, 9/24, 11/19

New Hampshire State Library



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Town of Easton
1060 Easton Valley Road
Easton, NH 03580